rate variation and extra interest liability due to delay in completion of the project. These have together contributed to an increase in the cost of about 80 per cent; the balance being due to price escalation increase in taxes and duties etc.

(b) to (e) Dulhasti Project was sanctioned in 1989 (for turn-key execution) at a cost of Rs. 1262.97 crores (at 1988 price level) to a French Consortium of firms consisting of M/s Coyne Et Bellier (COB), M/s. Dumez, Sogea & Borie (DSB); M/s. CEGELEC; M/s COMELEX; and M/s. SEITP.

The revised cost of the project is Rs. 3559.77 crores (November 1996 price level) and the estimated time schedule for completion of the project is 2000-2001. The original agreement with the Consortium had envisaged completion of the project within 57 months from the date of order i.e. October 1989. However, the work on the project was suspended in August 1992 by the French Consortium due to disturbed law and order conditions at the project site. With a view to resuming the work on the project, discussions were held and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed between National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) and the French Consortium. In pursuance of the MOU a recission agreement was signed in June 1995, according to which M/s DSB, the civil contractor, paid back to NHPC an amount of 50 million French Francs (about Rs. 23 crores) as full and final settlement. However, the MOU permitted other four members of the Consortium to continue with the implementation of the project. After widhdrawal of M/s DSB, NHPC took over the plant and machinery of M/s DSB and the civil works were taken up departmentally in 1995. With a view to completing the balance civil works, NHPC has singed contract with a new civil contractor.

In view of the facts mentioned above, there is no proposal for any inquiry into the matter.

लक्षित सकल घरेलू उत्पाद विकास दर को प्राप्त करने के लिए अतिरिक्त विद्युत उत्पादन

4393. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 30 अप्रैल, 1997 को "बिजनेस स्टैंडर्ड" में प्रकाशित "पावर जेनरेशन सीन लिंक्ड टू जी०डी०पी० ग्रोथ" शीर्षक की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या आगामी वर्षों में देश में जी०डी०पी० की लक्षित वार्षिक विकास दर प्राप्त करने के लिए अतिरिक्त विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता स्थापित करना जरूरी है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो 7 प्रतिशत का लक्षित जी०डी०पी० दर प्राप्त करने के लिए विद्युत उत्पादन की कितनी वार्षिक दर आवश्यक है?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० एस० वेनुगोपालाचारी): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) जीडीपी की विकास दर विद्युत उत्पादन समेत कई सारे घटकों पर निर्भर करती है और योजना आयोग समग्र आर्थिक लक्ष्यों को मद्देनजर रखते हुए क्षेत्रीय योजनाओं को अंतिम रूप प्रदान करता है।

Running of a unit of Dadri Thermal Power Station of Oil

4394. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Ageing plants may short circuit DVB plan" which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 3rd April, 1997;

(b) whether there is a proposal to run one unit of Dadri Thermal Power Station on oil; if so, the cost involved and the quantum of oil/fuel required per month to run the plant and stating the agency which would be bearing the cost of oil;

(c) whether Delhi Vidyut Parishad (DVP) is equipped enough to manage the gap between supply and demand of power in the capital; if so, the steps taken in the direction; and